

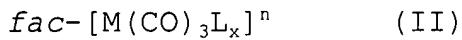
Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 18-26 and 32, and amend claims 27-31.

1-17. (Canceled).

18-26. (Canceled herein).

27. (Currently amended) A kit for carrying out a method of preparing a compound of formula

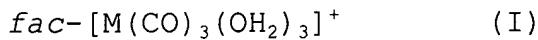


wherein:

M is Mn, ^{99m}Tc , ^{186}Re or ^{188}Re ;

L_x is i) three monodentate ligands ii) one monodentate ligand and one bidentate ligand, or iii) one tridentate ligand; and

n is a charge of the ligand L_x increased with one + charge; comprising reacting ligand L_x with a compound of formula



wherein M is as defined above, and wherein the compound of formula (I) is prepared by ~~a reaction in which reacting~~ a metal in permethylate form ~~is reacted~~ with carbon monoxide and a reducing agent, wherein said reducing agent comprises stannous ion reducing agent, said kit comprising (1) a lyophilized formulation including stannous ion formulation, wherein said stannous ion may be in the form of a discrete molecule comprising which comprises said stannous ion plus and an anion, (2) carbon

monoxide and (3) a metal M which is selected from the group
consisting of Mn, ^{99m}Tc , ^{186}Re or and ^{188}Re .

28. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 27 wherein said
stannous ion reducing agent is SnCl_2 .

29. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 27 wherein said
stannous ion formulation further includes comprises lactose.

30. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 27 wherein said
stannous ion formulation further includes comprises pyrophosphate
or gluceptate.

31. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 27 further comprising a
ligand wherein L_x which is a multidentate an aminopolycarboxylate
ligand.

32. (Canceled herein).